Shameel Arafin

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LinkedIn
shameelarafin

Technology Executive with extensive domain expertise in media, focused on digital journalism, documentary and online learning. Results-driven leader, mentor, engineering gender-parity advocate. 10+ years in web development, product management and project development.

Experience

Consultant   May 2018 - Present
Department of Data Science, New Jersey Institute of Technology

- Consulting with Director of Data Science and Bioinformatics.
- Researching machine learning algorithms for fake news detection.

Meredith Corp./formerly Time Inc.   April 2017 - February 2018
Senior Director, Platform Engineering, News Group

- Successfully launched multiple award-winning projects, including TIME's Person of the Year "The Silence Breakers" and "Finding Home", winner of American Society of Magazine Editors (ASME) and Picture of the Year (POY) awards, Emmy-nominated.
- Launched News and Health brands' second redesign and and re-platforming to Element (proprietary front-end platform).
- Recruited and led over a dozen developers, growing a team from 2 to 14 members, whose composition approached gender parity (43% female).
- Expanded purview to include Health vertical and all Foundry brands (the company's internal ad agency), as well as branded content/native advertising efforts. Managed multimillion-dollar engagements, working closely with advertising and marketing teams.
- Deeply involved in mentoring throughout the company, in Product, Design and Engineering departments.

Time Inc.   August 2015 - April 2017
Director, Platform Engineering, News Group

- Led engineering team for News and Education verticals, responsible for all technological aspects of time.com, fortune.com, money.com, timeforkids.com.
- Successfully re-launched iconic franchises such as FORTUNE 500, Person of the Year, TIME 100 Most Influential People.
- Drove re-architecture, re-platforming and development of Time For Kids, from simple Drupal-based CMS to sophisticated WordPress VIP-powered learning management system. Features included multiple lexile levels, Spanish translations, audio read-aloud of text, and online-assessment and testing software.
- Managed redesign and re-platforming efforts for all News brands to headless WordPress VIP architecture, including Node/Express/React-powred front-end.
- Supervised engineering team for native/branded content engagements for The Foundry, for clients including Netflix and Siemens (seven-figure engagement).

MediaStorm   June 2011 - July 2015
Platform Architect & Lead Developer

- Created architecture and back-end development for MediaStorm Platform, an interactive storytelling tool.
- First online video player to implement transaction (pay to view), built on proprietary CMS. Key users/clients include Wall Street Journal's Infinity Awards, Sundance Institute, International Center for Transitional Justice.
- Led technology sections for MediaStorm Workshops.
- Recruited developers and interns. Initiated 401(k) plan.

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Freelance Engagements   January 2003 - June 2011
CTO, Lead Developer

- PopStay: Architected and coded prototype of social app for vacation rentals and home swapping.
- Co-founded SignalFive, an interactive design, development and strategy agency for web/mobile apps. Clients included Al Gore's Alliance for Climate Protection and Grand Marnier.
- Massify: Back-end developer at startup social network/crowd-sourcing web application for the film and TV industry.

Credit Suisse First Boston Tech Group   July 1998 - March 2002
Senior Research Associate

- Equity research in Semiconductor Capital Equipment and Communications Test & Measurement sectors

Deutsche Bank Securities Tech Group   June 1997 - July 1998
Research Assistant

- Research Assistant to Director of Research/Lead Analyst on PC Hardware & Software
- Editor of *The Tech Daily*

Mentorship/Teaching/Advisory

Adjunct Professor   Expected Spring Semester 2019
Department of Computer Science, Lehman College

- Develop curriculum and teach unergraduate survey on machine learning and data science

CUNY Tech-In-Residence Corps   October 2018 - Present
Corps Member

- Working to fulfill Mayor Bill de Blasio's goal of supporting a pipeline of local talent pursuing tech degrees at the City University of New York.

CUNY 2X Tech   Summer 2017 - Present
Working Group Advisor

- CUNY colleges computer science departments syllabus advisory
- Working Group panelist and member

High School of Art & Design   November 2016 - Present
Advisory Board Member

- Syllabus ratification per New York Department of Education
- Portfolio reviews, guest speaking

Mountain Workshops, Western Kentucky University   October 2017
Digital Storytelling & Data Visualization Coach

- Co-led weeklong workshop with half a dozen students, using code, design, photo, video, cartography and mapping to tell local stories

Certifications

Scrum Alliance   February 2018 - Present
Certified Scrum Product Owner

Education

Harvard University   September 1995 - June 1997
A.B. Literature (Honors)

California Institute of Technology   September 1993 - June 1995
Electrical Engineering / Literature candidate